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INDICTMENTS

Immunity Pleas of Billard, Elton and Skinner Are Overruled By Federal District Court In New York.

Judge Holds That Testimony Before I. C. C. Did Not Carry Any Promise of Immunity to Officials.

New York, Jan. 2.-The federal dis-Ariet court overruled today the pleas of immunity interposed by John L. Billard, James S. Elton and William Skinner to indictments charging them oriminal violation of the Sherman law in connection with their acts us directors of the New York, New Blaven & Hartford Railroad Company.

Messrs. Elton. Skinner and Billard cialmed that they were entitled to immunity because of testimony given them before the interstate com merce commission prior to the return of the indictments. The court's deof the indictments. cision means that they will now be called upon to plead to the indict-ments which include 18 other well known men, all directors or former ctors of the road

Details of the decision were not announced by the clerk of the courts Illiam Leary. Mr. Leary said that Judge Grubb, who denied the pleas, was at present at his home in Alahad been ordered by Mr. Grubb entered in the court records here. Meantime Judge Grubb had informed him that the pleas were denied.

Of the ather immunity pleas, those of Edward Robbins, a director and general counsel of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Company, George F. Baker and T. DeWitt Cuyler, remain to be heard,

Mr. Robbins claims he is immun because he was examined by the fed-eral grand jury which indicted Charles S. Mellen, then president of the New Haven, and Edson J. Chamberlain and H. Smithers, president and chairman respectively of the Grand Trunk Railway Company, and because he was a witness before the interstate rce commission

Mr. Baker claims immunity because he testified before the Pulo laquiry. Mr. Cuyler asserts that he is limmune because he furnished the federal grand jury with the copy of the traffic agreement between the New Haven of Wing, the Blake woman was made the Grand Trunk companies.

Rept watch, Louis here to telephone to police headquarters. The automobile patrol brought several officers to the scene and on the strength of the story of Wing, the Blake woman was made the object of their hunt.

"DOUBLE-RIPPER" RUNS INTO TREE: FOUR BADLY HURT

Torrington, Jan. 2—Four persons were seriously injured and six others received minor hurts last night when a "double-ripper" on which they were roasting ran off the road and up against a large tree on Scoville Hill, Harwinton, just over the Torrington The double-ripper was demol-

James Fahey, steersman, received a Injured about the head, Walter Woodman received injuries to an arm. Thomaston girl whose name was not learned, received a broken nose.

SUMMON JURORS FOR NEW TERM OF SUPERIOR COURT

Suit of Prof. Atlas Against Ray Keating Scheduled for Trial

Ahe January term of the superior court will begin in earnest next Tuesday when a jury has been summoned. Judge James H. Webb of New Habrought by Prof. James Atlas, the hotel proprietor, against Ray ceating, the New York American done and that the procedure was conteasue pitcher. Atlas wants \$2,000 for fined to the taking out of a license. alleged injuries done to his property during a fight-that took place about

The jurors summoned are: -Charles E. Hamilton, Alfred J. McKeon, George H. Whit-

Darien-Frank B. Edwards, John ton-Willard S. Gillette, Edgar G.

Fairfield-A. E. Beeman, C. H. Brad-

Greenwich-William S. Craft, Fredcrick Field, Francis J. Talbot. Huntington-Warren C. Hubbell, El-

New Canaan-Miles G. Adams, Wm. A. Davenport. Newton-James J. Farrell, Francis

Norwalk-Ira M. Hoyt, Howard L. Lowndes, John F. McMahon. Stamford—Samuel J. Faucett, Ed-ward M. Goulden, Gideon F. Hendrie.

THE WEATHER.

Snow or rain followed by fair and slightly colder on Sunday.

WOMAN FIREBUG BUILDING WORK MEN TO FACE IS MYSTERIOUSLY IN 1914 ALMOST SILENT IN COURT

Madison Road Family Imperiled By Strange Conduct of Neighbor

BELATED WAYFAYER DISCOVERS FLAMES

Fire Dies Out and Woman Alleged to Have Set It Is Apparently Asleep

A sensational story of attempted During the year 1914, according to arson which imperiled the lives of a the books in the building commissionfamily including five small children, ers' office, 1,032 building permits were was disclosed in the city court today when Mrs. Mary Blake, a house-keeper, living on Madison road, was arraigned before Judge Frank L cepting one. Wilder of the city court.

The motive of the attempted arson possible explanation that the woman of more than \$4,000,000. was irrational from drink, the near-

home, after a belated call, shortly af-ter 12 o'clock when he was attracted to its plant. by the light near the Kelly home. The City Savings bank has built a Wing thought one of the outbuildings new structure in Main and Bank was aftre, and he hurried into the streets. The Bridgeport Land & Title

Elmer Kelly called to his brother, Louis, a neighbor, and while Elmer kept watch, Louis hurried to a neigh-bor's home to telephone to police headquarters. The automobile pa-

Patrolman Barton located the wo-man, apparently asleep in the home of Platt, where she is employed. She appeared to be intoxicated. When arraigned in the city court today, she maintained a strange si-lence. Kelly says he knows of no

reason why she should attempt to set fire to his property. The Kelly home is situated so close the cook house that it is likely, has the flames gained headway, the home, cookhouse and a barn would

have been destroyed.

THOUGHT SHE WAS WIFE; NOW HAS MAN HELD AS SEDUCER

Tricked Into Belief That Issuance of Marriage License Constituted Ceremony

police detectives yesterday by pretty 21-years-old Mary Vogler, 622 Fairfield avenue, in which she asked aid in determining her marriage status, Thomas Corso of the same address was arrested this noon charged with seduction by Detective Petruschell following the presentation of the story to prosecuting authorities. He will be held while further investigation is

For two years and until about three weeks ago Mary believed that she was Mrs. Corso and that she had been ther alarmed when they informed her the United States. mony. Corso and Mary have lived togethed in the plant of the U. M. C. Co., while he has seldom worked and has expenses. Dressed in fashionable attire he explained his not working to the police today by saying that he had been unable to get a position Manufacturing Company. She will to his liking and relatives had aided

him financially. Yesterday, according to Mary, he asked for money in order to celebrate lew Year properly. She had He assaulted her when she told him she could not meet his demands. She says that she became a mother a year ago, the child dying soon afterwards, and she expects soon again to be a mother.

Mary is a native of Austria, at-

tractive and of refined appearance. 300 MINES FLOAT ASHORE.

RECORD BREAKER

Only Great Boom of 1907 Surpasses the Figures Compiled for Last Year

NEW BANK IS CITY'S RICHEST STRUCTURE

Aggregate Work for Which Permits Were Granted Is Nearly Four Million

issued, the aggregate cost of the work estimated at \$3,685,432. This amount breaks all records for any year excepting one. In 1907 there was an unusually big boom in the building business, many homes and business was not explained, and save for the blocks being erected at a total cost

This year the tragedy remains a mystery. Timely ever erected in Bridgeport was rear-discovery of a strange flickering light ed. It was the white brick and mardiscovery of a strange flickering light ed. It was the white brick and mar-in the vicinity of the home of Elmer ble First-Bridgeport National bank Kelly of Madison road, just after midnight, prevented the woman's suc- which cost \$450,000. The new High cess. Mrs. Blake is housekeeper at the have cost more than \$375,000, was also house of Charles Platt, a well known resident of Madison road, near the is erecting gaotory buildings and addi-Dewhirst dairy. Wallace Wing, an tions to its plant which will cost more employe of the dairy, was on his way than \$200,000. The Bridgeport Brass

was aftre, and he hurried into the streets. The Bridgeport Land & Title yard, shouting at the top of his voice. Co. has built a new home in Main While the Kelly family was arous-While the Kelly family was arousing itself, Wing hurried to the scene factories has made some sort of adopt the blaze, and there, in the bright dition to their plants.

miconlight, he says he plainly recog-nized the woman who was on trial home building in the North End above later, in the city court.

The fire died out of itself. But a section and in Black Rock and the hurried investigation of the premises West End. The fiscal year does not

Fourth quarter, 967,038

OPPOSE WEBSTER

Notified to Quit, Snow May Claim Civil Service Protects His Post

Hartford, Jan. 2-Superintendent Robert O. Snow, of the state capitol, and his assistant, Hubert Rigney, reeived today in the form of letters. the first notification from Comptroller-elect Morris C. Webster, that they he comptroller-elect wrote in part at he was "obliged" to inform him hat his services would not be required after January 6. To Mn Rig-

It is my pleasure to inform you that bestoning with my duties at the capitol, your services will be no longer

ANOTHER SHIP TO RAISE OLD GLORY WITHIN LOCAL PORT

Another large ship is soon expected legally married in New Haven. Then to change her registry in this port she became suspicious, wrote to the and add her tonnage to the large mer-New Haven authorities and was fur- chant marine now being formed in will preside. A number of cases that it was not legal, if she had not steel sailing vessel of 1,528 tons, and are flown for trial , among them being appeared before religious or civil ausister ship of the "Pass of Balmaha," therities for the performing of a cere- which changed registry at Stamford She says that this was not two months ago, sailed from Buenos done and that the procedure was con- Ayres about November 25, with consular registry from the United States though still flying the British flag. er since then, she says, she has work- She is expected to arrive at Stamford, a branch of the port of Bridgeport, allowed her earnings to meet current papers and pull down the Union Jack for the Stars and Stripes.

Manufacturing Company. She will stop at Barbados. The vessel was built at Glasgow, Scotland, by Russell & Company, in 1891 and was recently transferred by the Belmont Shipping Company of Yarmouth to her present owners, the Hall Shipping Company of Searsport, Maine.

It is expected that as soon as the "Belmont" arrives at Stamford her captain will proceed to Washington, where the ship's papers already have been sent by American Consul L. J. Kenna, of Buenos Ayres, and that complete registration and transfer of

fleating mines have drifted ashore on well known to the police and said to the Dutch coast according to the commander of the Swedish steamer, Yara, End, was fined \$35 and costs by Judge day from Rotterdam and Portland, intoxication and having a revolver in Captain Willingren, which arrived to- Wilder at today's city court session for This possession.

FILIPINO UNFIT TO GOVERN SELF, PROF. TAFT SAYS

Fomer President Says Chaos Would Follow Passage of Bill for Independence

THINKS U.S. SHOULD SOON QUIT ISLANDS

Situation Similar to Mexico Is His Prediction Under Self-Government

Washington, Jam 2-In vigorous terms Former President Taft told the Senate Philippines Commission that the Filipino people were not as yet capable of selg-government. He opmeasure of self government for the Islands declaring that "no measure could be framed better calculated to stir up trouble in the Philippines." 'The Filipino people do not under-

stand republican self-government in the sense that we know it," said the former President. "What would be the result if they

were given self-government at once?' asked Chairman Hitchcock. "A Filipino in whom I have great confidence," said Mr. Taft, "said to me: Your steamers would not be around Corrigidor Island before the throat-cutting would begin.' I verily believe that is true. We find the same condition in Mexico. The man loses a political fight has head for a forfeit. That's what developed when Aguinaldo was in

"I'm describing an actual condition that exists there. I'd be glad to have the United States get out of the Philippines and I have great regard for the poor people out there. They don't like me because I've told them the truth. But the with a great many people is that they don't like to be told the truth. If you give these people independence now or by 1920 you will have this terrible situation develop. Either a Diaz would arise in the Philippines or they would get into a condition that caused the fall of Diaz in Mex-

The former President while disayowing any intention of speaking as a military expert, said in answer to questions, that the obligation of the United States to defend the Philippines might be a "source of weakness in time, of war."

Sagement which took place on the dunes of Nieuport and at Zonnebeke.

"In the regions of Arras, of Albert and of Roye there have ben artillery

"But," he continued, "I do not believe that any of the nations now engaged in the European war would court. In revenge we demolished the look on the possession of the Philip-enemy's trenches at Parvillers and at look on the possession of the Philip-pines as a naval base as a source of La Boisselle and we stopped the op-

Mr. Taft declared that in his opinion Japan had no desire to take the Philippines.

FOUND BUTCHER HIDING UNDER HIS WIFE'S BED

Latter Begged for Mercy, So tirement reported yesterday has not had any effect. We reoccupied a part Locomobile Employe Let Him Go-Gets Divorce

Returning unexpectedly to his home at 12:30 a. m. and finding the butcher This does not mean that Mr. Snow hiding under a bed, was the unique and Mr. Rigney will vacate without a experience related by Robert J. Allen struggle as the civil service commisof this city in the superior court tosion main ains that the positions come day when he obtained a divorce from under the provisions of the civil ser- Ida L. Allen. Allen, who is employed vice act. Comptroller D. P. Dung is at the Locomobile Co., testified that As a result of a pitiful story told to to have a conference with the com- the incident upon which he was grantmission Monday regarding the matter, ed a divorce happened in Turners Falls, Mass., in April, 1901.

Allen had been employed in a big paper mill and was supposed to work at night. There was an accident to the machinery, however, and the husband went home earlier than usual. staff tonight says: He found the house locked and everything in darkness. After rapping on without getting a response we have defeated attempts by the Allen told his wife to open the door Germans to deliver a partial offen-

or he would break it in. Mrs. Allen then appeared in very scanty attire. She wanted her hus- the infantry of the enemy with suc- the French attacks on this village band to go downstairs for some coal cess. but he was suspicious and refused to leave. He saw a man's foot sticking Pinca, the Germans have begun a se-The "Belmont," a out from under a bed and dragged of 1,528 tons, and out the town butcher, whose name The latter in an action on the left bank of the was Joseph Laffenbaugh. begged for mercy so Allen let him go. After this incident Allen left his wife and shortly afterward came to Allen is living at Mrs. present in Greenfield, Mass. The con ple were married in October, 1888. The wife's maiden name was Ida Lamery.

It was Judge Webb's first appearance in the superior court here and the Allen decree was the first divorce matter to come before him in this

ALLEGES LAWYER HUSBAND HAS BEEN INTOLERABLY CRUEL

Attorney Stanley T. Jennings, member of the legal firm of Scofield & Jennings of Stamford, is the defendant in divorce proceedings brought by pers filed today in the superior court Jennings alleges intolerable complete registration and transfer of the ship will be expeditiously effected. November 24, 1894. They have four William Schatz of this city, has

they should make them

KAISER RENEWS ATTACK ON ALLIES IN FLAND

SUMMARY OF TODAY'S WAR NEWS

and Belgium, initiated in reply to the offensive movement of the allies, has developed to such a point that the allies now are on the defensive along the greater part of the line. The extent of the German movement is shown by today's French statement which speaks of a series of night attacks against the allies along the front. These onslaughts apparently were not in great force, however, and the assumption is that they all were repulsed with

As to the results of the recent fighting in Alsace and the Argonne, along the eastern portion of the front there is a sharp conflict in the statements from Berlin and Parls. The German communication said further ground had been gained in the Argonne and specifically denies that the claims of the French war office that half of the Alsatian villages of Steinbach has been captured and that the French are makinga further advance there. The some of the territory lost to the Germans in the Argonne has been regained and that three new lines of houses have been occupied in

Steinbach The German military authorities say there have been no change in the eastern campaign except that the Germans on the

Paris, Jan. 2.-The French war of-

fice this afternoon gave out an official

"During the night of Dec. 31-Jan. 1

the enemy delivered at numerous

points along the front a series of at-

tacks which were repulsed with ease.

The region to the north of Lys was

during the, 'ay of January 1, the scene of a very spirited artillery en-

and of Roye there have ben artillery

duels. The enemy blew up two of our

calssons between Beaumetz and Achi-

erations of the mine thrower set up in

results in the region of the Alsne

enemy and dispersed several concen-

trations of German troops. We have

by the explosion of mines. The Ger-

or drive us out; all their counter-at-

"In the region of Perthes we occu-

pied and retained a forest two kilo-

metres to the northeast of Mesnile-

Hurlus; the enemy did not deliver a

counter-attack. In the Argonne, in

the forest of La Grurie, the local re-

of the ground lost and we are holding

our positions strongly.
"On the heights of the Meuse there

has been an artillery engagement but

"In the Vosges we have driven back

a German attack on our positions at

Bremenil, three kilometres northeast

of Badonviller, inflicting heavy losses

on the Germans. The enemy has sus-

tained also heavy losses at Steinbach

where our infantry yesterday occu-pied three new lines of houses."

RUSSIAN

Petrograd, Jan. 2.-An official com-

munication given out by the general

"In East Prussia and in the region

of Mlawa (northern Russian Poland)

sive. On the Vistula, opposite Wysz-

ogrod, our armed steamers cannoned

"Between the Vistula and the lower

of their heavy artillery. Our troops,

Nouvron in certain excavations caused charges.

"Our artillery also obtained happy

announcement as follows:

front of Fricourt.

tacks were driven back.

without great severity.

OFFICIAL REPORTS ON

The Russian war office announced that another defeat has been inflicted upon the Austrian forces in Galicia whose advance from the Carpathians recently was checked with serious consequences to them It is asserted that fortified Austrian positions near Galicia were destroyed and that 3,000 prisoners were captured. The Russian statement says, however, that the victory was won early after a hard battle and that fighting still continues, indicating that the Austrians are still capable of offering In Poland the German attack ap-

parently has shifted to the southward. The Russian statement mentions fighting of particular in-tensity at Rawa, which is thirty miles south of Sochaczwa, he recent center of the German artillery. The German attacks there well as in east Prussla and in the region of Milawa, in Poland near the east Prussian border, are said to have been repulsed.

Austrian warships have bombard-

ed Belgrade, the Servian capital, from which the Austrians were driven shortly after they had oc-cupied it. Some damage to prop-erty was caused by the bombardment but, so far as is known no lives were lost. According to a report current in Paris, the British battleship For-

midable was sunk off Portsmouth, England's chief naval base, destruction of the Formidable is believed to have been the work

Rawka where the fighting still con-

"South of the Pilica the action has

spread out and the positions cut off

"In Gallola we made energetic at-

Mschanka and Ropitza where despite

the extremely fierce resistance which

a hard fight, their fortifications es-

leuses . The fighting in this region

ed by armored automobiles were re-

"In Bukowine we occupied after a

GERMAN

Berlin, Jan. 2 .- (By wireless to Lon-

don.)-The German official communi-

cation issued today by the army head-

attacks against our positions in and near the lines at Nieuport were re-

pulsed. In the Argonne region we made further progress along the

of Verdun and also against the front

on the line of Allly-Apremont, north of Commercy, were repulsed with

heavy losses to the French. Thirty-

three officers and 100 men were taken

succeeded in taking the entire Bois

Brules (burned forest) for which we

cally bombarded the village situated

killing 50 inmates of one of the shel-

that the French are making progress

"East of the Bzura and the Rawka

branches of the Vistula river our at-

what more favorable weather condi-

"Lately the French have systemati-

have been fighting so stubbernly.

ters of one of our divisions.

step by step in the village

have been repelled.

ries of attacks supported by the fire tacks have progressed under some-

tions.

prisoners by us. On this occasion we

"In the eastern theatre the enemy's

"Fierce French attacks to the north

against Doletzk.

Gorlice (southwest

some prisoners."

quarters staff says:

installed ourselves on the plateau of pused by our artillery fire and bayonet

French, English and Belgian Troops Forced to Assume Defensive When Germans Force Sharp Engagements at Many Points Along Big Battle Line In West.

Series of Night Attacks Brings Success to Kaiser's Troops After Severe Fighting - Situation In East Shows Russians Still Holding Strong Positions.

London, Jan. 2-The latest news available from the western battle front shows that little progress is being made by the allied forces and rather indicates a sporadic renewal of the German offensive with resultant slight gains in the Argonne and French Flanders.

These operations can hardly be classed as a general Garman offensive movement in the west such as is still being conducted in Poland but the strength which the Germans are showing seems to make it plain that they have not weakened appreciably their western territory by transfer of troops two night attacks. On the Rawka to the east, nor has the presriver we repulsed an attack directed sure of the allies broken their grip on Belgium and France "On Dec. 31, the enemy manifested activity which was particularly in-tense in the region of the town of from the North Sea to Metz.

Avoids General Attack

General Joffre apparently is still voiding a general attack. The Garmans are attempting to pros forward by Poland but to the south the Rusfrom the routes from Vlostchere to sians have driven the Austrians further back-more than 60 miles in all tacks on the enemy in the region of It is again reported that the Russians are pouring across the Carpathian mountains into Hungary, causing the inhabitants to flee.

Driven out of Servia, the Austrians

the enemy offered we destroyed, after nevertheless are again laying siege to tablished on the heights. In the vil-Belgrade. According to despatches from the three thousand prisoners, including 68 officers, four cannon and six mitrail-It is exceedingly difficult to ob where it silenced the artillery of the still continues. Furious counter-attacks which the enemy made support-

city, four monitors have bombarded tain any clear idea of the Turkish operations but according to an Athens lespatch the Sultan and his court are preparing to leave Constantinopie, fearing the early fall of that city. The strack on Egypt seems to have been shandoned indefinitely Various reports concerning the con-

mans were not able to either advance battle, Storozhinetz and Radautz (just south of Czernovitz). We also took dition of Emperor William's throat are again in circulation. According o one version, the Emperor must soon return to Berlin to undergo an opera-

With the full knowledge that vast numbers of men are now being trained in England, Germany, it is reconnized here, must be preparing fully to meet their entry into the war. It is agreed that much depends upon the cuality of the new formations on both sides. The English view is that Britain's new troops will be the cream of the country while Germany, having sent in her finest forces at the out-set, must depend for reinforcements

upon those physically less fit. There are again reports of the movements of German troops from the west to the east. Advices from Amsterdam state that 200,000 Germans passed through Cologns on the way east and it is suggested that they are being sent to General Von Hindanburg preparatory to another great ef-fort to batter through the Russian

behind our front. They succeeded in The French official reports state bach (Alsace). Not a single house has been lost by us in Steinbach. All STEAMER AGAIN HELD UP AT SEA

Halifax, Jan. 2-Word was received steamer Brindilla, whose arrest by the British cruiser and detention at Halifax last October, was the cause of dip-lomatic correspondence between the United States and Great Britain, re-London, Jan. 2-The British Ad- suiting in the steamer's release, again niralty today issued a list containing had been interrunted off the coast of Scotland and taken into Aberdeen.

New York, Jan. 2-Confirmation of the Brindilla's seizure was given toit says, must be presumed to have day at the offices of the Standard been lost in the disaster as they have Oil company here but it was said that the ship had been interrupted by a French warship and taken to Brest, France. This information came, the company said, in a cablegram from Captain Patersen, commander of the

Washington, Jan. 2.- The state dethe greater part of her crew, was tor-pedoed off Portsmouth by a German steamer Brindilla, after her science submarine, according to a report cur- off the coast of Scotland was taken to Brest and made representations to the British government. Unofficial as-Martin Feyrer, who keeps a caloon surances have been received that the

All the electric clocks in the city hall stopped at ten minutes of 10 o'clock today. It was said that one of the He current wires became crossed in the storm and disarranged the time keeping system.

JOHN SHEPHERD TO WED MISS DROUVE

The engagement of Miss Bertha Drouve, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerhard Drove, to John N. Shepherd was announced at a party of friends who had gathered by invitation at Miss Drouve's home, 671 Hancock avenue, on Thursday afternoon. Miss Drouve was graduated from the local High school and the city Normal school. She is one of the city's most opular young teachers. herd is with Meigs & Company and with his bride-elect enjoys an exceedingly wide circle of friends, all of whom will be pleased to learn of the engagement.

ASKS DAMAGES FOR COLLISION

To recover for damage to his milk children of whom the wife wants the brought suit against Johnannes E. Mrs. Jennings' maiden name Johnson of this city for \$200. The accident happened September 7 last. Schatz says the shafts of his wagon It is greatly cheering to many men were broken and the vehicle otherto be told that they couldn't possibly wise damaged. The suit is returnable and an enthusiastic sportsman. keep any New Year's resolutions if to the common pleas court, January enjoys fox hunting and is said to

Thirty-five Officers Lost On Formidable

the names of Captain Arthur N. Loxley and 34 other officers of the British battleship Formidable which was sunk in the English Channel yesterday who, not been reported among the saved, The list includes nine midshipmen,

SUNK BY TORJEDO? , Paris, Jan. 2-The British battle- Brindilla; by way of London. ship Formidable, which sank in the English Channel Friday morning with

rent in Paris. and grocery store in Trumbull road, is vessel will be promptly released the first hunter to take out a license He received the document for 1915. this morning, paying the citizens fee, \$1.25. Mr. Feyrer is 43 years of age

enjoys fox hunting and is said to own

the best fox hound in Connecticut.